

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

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DOD/ISA:PSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 150575

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: CSCE CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES - PRIOR

NOTIFICATION OF SMALLER MANEUVERS

REF: GENEVA 4121

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1. IF QUESTION OF NOTIFYING SMALLER MANEUVERS ARISES IN NATO CAUCUS YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO SAY THAT WE WOULD EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT EVENTUAL DISCRETIONARY NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS BELOW THRESHOLD AS PART OF FINAL CBMS PACKAGE, PROVIDING CBM ITEMS ON MAJOR MANEUVERS CAN BE SATISFACTORILY AGREED. HOWEVER WE DO NOT BELIEVE ALLIES SHOULD PURSUE QUESTION OF SMALLER MANEUVERS UNTIL SOVIETS HAVE MADE CONCESSIONS ON LOWERING THRESHOLD FOR MAJOR MANEUVERS AND ON NOTIFYING NATIONAL AS WELL AS MULTINATIONAL MANEUVERS TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. THEREFORE WE PREFER NOT TO ENDORSE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON SMALLER MANEUVERS AT THIS TIME.

2. FYI: AT APPROPRIATE TIME, WE WOULD PROBABLY BE ABLE TO ACCEPT CONSENSUS ON EITHER SOVIET OR YUGOSLAV FORMULATIONS FOR NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS BELOW THRESHOLD FOR "MAJOR" MANEUVERS, PROVIDED VOLUNTARY AND DISCRETIONARY NATURE OF NOTIFICATIONS OF SMALLER SCALE MANEUVERS REMAINS CLEAR. TO THIS END, WE WOULD PREFER TO ADD "AT THEIR DISCRETION" AFTER "THE PARTICIPATING STATES MAY ..." IN

THE YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL. OTHERWISE WE PREFER THE YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL TO THE SOVIET BECAUSE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS OVER A PERIOD OF TIME COULD GIVE RISE TO SUSPICION AMONG NON-SIGNATORIES OF SUCH AGREEMENTS. WE WOULD OPPOSE ANY EFFORTS TO FLESH OUT THESE FORMULATIONS OR TO GIVE THEM MORAL OR POLITICAL STATUS COMPARABLE TO PROVISIONS FOR MAJOR MANEUVERS AND EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS CALLED FOR IN HELSINKI RECOMMENDATION. WE AGREE WITH USDEL COMMENT ON NECESSITY TO PROTECT FREEDOM OF MANEUVERS FOR AIR AND NAVAL UNITS. END FYI. KISSINGER

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